

CROOKS PASS DEAD LINE

\$30,000 in Diamonds Stolen from Maiden Lane Importer.

"INSIDE JOB," POLICE SAY

Safe Blown by Experts, Others Think—Jeweller Says All His People Are Above Suspicion.

Out of a building in which "everybody is thoroughly trustworthy," and which is below the police "dead line," in the heart of the diamond district, supposedly enjoying special protection from the police, "eggmen" took more than \$30,000 worth of diamonds some time between 1 o'clock Wednesday afternoon and 3 o'clock Friday morning.

The safe in the office of Emanuel S. Rose, a diamond dealer, on the seventh floor of No. 48 Maiden Lane, was drilled and blown open with nitroglycerine in a manner that showed the looters were experts in their line. The office had evidently been entered with a key, as there were no scratches on the door.

There are keys in the possession of cleaners in the building. This led the police to say that it looked like "an inside job." But this is what the police always say when they are especially puzzled. And, besides, the superintendent of the building said yesterday that all of the cleaners, scrubwomen and helpers in his employ were thoroughly trustworthy, and could not be suspected of lending assistance to such untrustworthy persons as safe crackers.

Mr. Rose also said that all the people in his office were thoroughly trustworthy, that being a necessary attribute of diamond dealers and people working for them, so that no suspicion could attach to any one of his people.

A peculiar sense of humor was responsible for the only thing remotely resembling a clue that the police had to work on. Pinned to the door of Mr. Rose's office was a note in Yiddish. Various translators rendered the note in different ways, but the gist of it was said to be: "Don't come because it is robbed and the cops are on the job already."

"They cleaned me out of everything," said Mr. Rose, "taking even postage stamps and a purse full of pennies. They took a lot of comparatively cheap coral jewelry. The biggest single piece of value was a \$2,500 diamond horseshoe."

There is a good deal of mystery how the thieves were able to get into the building, mount to the seventh story and blow the safe without attracting attention. There was a watchman in the building—"one of the trustworthy ones"—but he heard nothing. Then they had to come down the stairway again with their loot and get out into the street. The street door was supposed to be locked.

This condition of affairs was discovered by a cleaner, who went to sweep the office Friday morning. He reported it to the superintendent of the building, who in turned called the police. When Mr. Rose arrived at his office a few minutes later he found no diamonds, but several policemen. It is supposed that the thieves took advantage of the quiet holiday to do their work.

The jewellers in the district were greatly upset to think that the crime wave had rolled into their street. The dead line, they say, has no longer any terrors for the crook. Each jeweller was taking special pains on his own account to protect his goods. As to the police—they only look baffled and say they are working "like thunder" on the case and expect to solve it.

ASKS 40,000 TO "MAKE GOOD."

With the object of encouraging suggestions for improvement in the service from its employees the management of the Southern Pacific Company has sent the following notice to each of the 40,000 employees of the company:

"Every man who makes a suggestion that will improve the service will get recognition and credit. It doesn't make any difference what position you hold. Every position in a railroad is important, and the management pledges itself to take you, individually, at your own valuation if you make good."

THINKS WOMEN NEAR CRISIS

Missouri Professor Likens Conditions to Ancient Rome.

Kansas City, Mo., Feb. 24.—"Present day conditions as regards women bear a striking resemblance to conditions in old Rome. Roman women in the height of their glory achieved their greatest degradation. Childlessness was the virtue. We are approaching the verge."

In these terms Professor C. A. Elwood, of Columbia, Mo., warned patrons of the Missouri University Extension Course here to-day of the necessity of reform in the conduct of the home. He said:

Woman's invasion of the fields of industry means an increase in the death rate of the child. Fatherhood must support motherhood. Class consciousness enters into the woman question. It sets sex against sex. But woman is half the world. She should not consider herself a class. Women of the Rome that fell achieved all the legal and social rights the modern woman clamors for save the vote. Woman does best in the home. Life is not a conflict and sex antagonism defeats every end of nature.

SISTERS DEFEND GAYNOR

Those Who Nursed Mayor Victor Letter to Corporation Counsel.

Corporation Counsel Watson yesterday made public a letter received from the Sisters in charge of St. Mary's, Hoboken, in regard to the suit of Dr. William J. Arlitz to recover his bill of \$7,500 for services alleged to have been rendered to Mayor Gaynor when the Mayor was in the hospital suffering from a gunshot wound. The letter reads:

Hon. William J. Gaynor, Mayor, New York City, N. Y.

Esteemed Friend—The Sisters of St. Mary's Hospital have learned with deep regret of the suit brought against you by Dr. Arlitz, who was connected with the hospital as visiting surgeon at the time you were injured.

We are exceedingly sorry for this action, and it certainly does not even remotely represent our hospital or its feeling toward you. We were glad to do everything in our power to restore you to health, and shall always remember and acknowledge with sincerest gratitude the generous appreciation of our services shown by yourself and friends. It will undoubtedly be remembered that the hospital refused to render a bill at the time, nor would we ever have done so. We are writing you now that you may be sure the Sisters of St. Mary's Hospital are in no way responsible for the action taken by Dr. Arlitz.

Assuring you of our continued esteem, we beg to remain, very respectfully, SISTERS OF THE POOR OF ST. FRANCIS, Hoboken, N. J., Feb. 23, 1912.

Mr. Watson said he had received letters from a number of members of the New Jersey bar offering to defend the action brought by Dr. Arlitz.

TRUST CO. MERGER EFFECTIVE

Equitable Takes Over Business of Trust Company of America.

The merger agreement whereby the Equitable Trust Company is to take over the business of the Trust Company of America was formally ratified by the stockholders of both institutions at special meetings held for the purpose yesterday. The terms of the agreement have been already published in The Tribune.

Alvin W. Kreh, president of the Equitable Trust Company, subsequently announced that on and after Monday, February 26, the business of the Trust Company of America would be merged with that of the Equitable. The main office of the latter will be at No. 37 Wall street, the home of the Trust Company of America, which owns the building. This building was included in the merger.

The merged company will be known as the Equitable Trust Company. It will have branches at No. 618 Fifth avenue and No. 222 Broadway, this city, and in London and Paris.

EX-PARTNERS SUE EACH OTHER.

Murray A. Verner, of Pittsburgh, has brought suit in the Supreme Court against H. Sellers McKee, of the same city, and his former partner, who is known as the "plate glass millionaire," to recover \$30,000 which he said was due on a note.

The two litigants were partners in a business which contemplated the buying and control of street railways in several cities. The partnership was dissolved, and the suit was an outgrowth of the differences that arose. McKee made a counter claim for \$180,000.

JEWS DELAY JURY WORK

Object to Serving After Dark, but Agree to Remain.

THIRD MAN THEN OBJECTS

Seventh Day Adventist Protests and Is Excused by Mutual Consent of Lawyers in Case.

Religious scruples came very near defeating stern justice in the Supreme Court again on Friday night and putting the working machinery of the court out of gear. It was only a few weeks ago that an orthodox Jew objected to being held as a witness in a suit after his Sabbath had begun. Justice Lehman, in the Supreme Court, had an experience with three men on Friday evening who would not let their duty to the state interfere with their religious, which provide that no work shall be done on the Sabbath, not even the writing of one's name, and it required all the judicial power of argument to point out that the state and the law must be served, regardless of all extraneous circumstances. However, Justice Lehman was only two-thirds successful.

The three men with the scruples were Jurymen in the suit of Rae against the Pioneer Fruit Company. Being a day before an off day in court, the justice and the lawyers wanted to dispose of the case Friday night. So it was 4:20 o'clock, or twenty minutes after the usual time for adjournment, when the jury retired to deliberate on the case. Justice Lehman announced that if the jury could reach an agreement by 6 o'clock it was to hand in a sealed verdict, which means that it was to continue its efforts to agree and then hand in its verdict in writing, to be opened on Monday.

Dusk was approaching; the justice was waiting in his chambers, and John R. Stanchfield and Emil Schultze, opposing counsel, were waiting in the courtroom; but the jury came not. Then word was sent to Justice Lehman that two of the Jurymen wanted to talk to him, and the twelve men were marched by court attendants from the jury room to the courtroom. Justice Lehman went on the bench.

The message that the two Jurymen had for the court was that their Sabbath—the Jewish Sabbath—had arrived, and made it impossible for them to longer serve on the jury. Besides, they said, they could not bring themselves to write, which would be necessary if a sealed verdict was to be handed in, as the signature of each Jurymen must be signed to it.

Justice Lehman argued with the two men. He pointed out that it was as much his Sabbath as it was theirs, but that he had to sacrifice his religion in such a case to public duty. The justice said he was sure the two Jurymen were in error, because, under such pressing circumstances, allowance was made even in the case of the orthodox. The two men capitulated before the arguments of the court and agreed to stick it out.

The jury went back in the jury room, and it had become still darker, when it again became necessary to summon the justice, and again the jury filed into the courtroom. This time another Jurymen raised an objection to serving longer. He was a Seventh Day Adventist, and neither his religion nor his conscience would permit him to treat of worldly affairs on his Sabbath, which had already begun. Justice Lehman again tried the power of argument, but the Adventist was obdurate, and just would not serve the state in the time that he was required to serve his Church.

Not wishing to be harsh and not caring to stand on his judicial power to compel the complaining Jurymen to remain, Justice Lehman excused him, the lawyers in the case stipulating that they would accept the verdict of eleven Jurymen.

After all this Justice Lehman decided that he would remain until 8 o'clock and wait for the verdict, instead of having a sealed verdict rendered after 6 o'clock. The jury of eleven men came into the courtroom with their verdict at 7:30 o'clock. The two who objected to writing their names did not have to do so.

TRIANGLE MAN "BROKE"

Harris Now Only Employee of Company, He Says.

Isaac Harris, senior member of the firm of Harris & Black, owners of the Triangle Shirt Waist Company, whose factory was burned out in the Asch Building last March, causing the loss of more than a hundred lives, was examined in supplementary proceedings in the City Court yesterday for an unpaid judgment for \$306 obtained by the Rapid Safety Filter Company.

Since the disastrous fire in their factory Harris & Black have been sued by survivors who were injured and by relatives of employees who lost their lives for damages aggregating about \$1,000,000. Harris testified yesterday that he owned no property and that he was only an employee of the Triangle Shirt Waist Company, serving as secretary, and without compensation.

The judgment debtor said the \$306,000 worth of insurance policies on his life were payable to the shirt waist company. His wife, he said, has been supporting the household since the Asch Building fire. Harris said that his firm collected \$150,000 in insurance for damage by the fire in their factory. The liabilities of the firm were \$300,000. They later incorporated the Triangle Shirt Waist Company.

In answer to a question as to what was done with the \$150,000 collected, Harris said he paid some of the creditors, including Max D. Steuer, who defended Harris and Black when they were tried for manslaughter for the deaths of their employees. They were acquitted of this charge.

WANT NEW BANKING SECTION

Suggestion Renewed for Organizing of Investment Branch of Association.

The proposition to organize an investment bankers' section as an adjunct of the American Bankers' Association, which failed of adoption at the annual convention of the association, held at New Orleans last year, is again being agitated by leading investment bankers, who will try to put the plan through when the association again convenes, at Detroit. A committee, headed by George B. Caldwell, vice-president of the Continental and Commercial Bank, of Chicago, has been formed to push the matter among these bankers.

Bankers interested in the movement say that it is not in any way directed against commercial banking, and that the fear that such was the case, which brought about

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MANY RATES SUSPENDED

Commerce Commission Orders Some Reductions.

Washington, Feb. 24.—All class and commodity freight tariffs proposing increases in rates from points of origin on the Boston & Maine Railroad by way of Chatham, N. Y., to New York City and beyond, were suspended to-day by the Interstate Commerce Commission from March 1 until June 2, pending investigation.

Transcontinental railroads were ordered by the commission to reduce rates from St. Louis and other Mississippi River transfers to Denver on iron and steel bars from 83 cents to 82 cents a hundred pounds, and on steel plates and sheets and structural steel (not fabricated) from 83 cents to 82 cents a hundred.

Increases in freight rates on iron and steel articles proposed by many of the railroads operating east of the Mississippi River to-day were suspended permanently.

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THE DEFEAT OF THE PLAN AT NEW ORLEANS, WAS UNJUSTIFIED.

The proposed section, it is explained, is intended in the main to seek to raise the standard of those engaged in the investment banking field to a higher plane of excellence.

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